

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT Port of Poti

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This is UNEVALUATED

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEF Information RAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. [] ship was in the port of Poti from 8 to 12 October 1954. 25X1
2. [] the quay, marked 3 on J.I.B. plan 4/4 (54a) of Poti, was in good repair. The depth of the water at approximately two meters from the quay was 21 feet. Soundings were taken to determine this. The continual dropping of ore, during the loading, has formed a sloping shelf against the quay. There were three portal cranes travelling on rails on the quay. The estimated lifting capacity of each was more than seven tons. One of these cranes was partially dismantled. 25X1
3. The quay marked 4-5 was also in good repair. On this quay there were four cranes similar to those on quay 3. About half way along the quay, the water was about 24 feet deep. [] the water becomes shallower towards the eastern end of the basin. 25X1
4. There were at least 20,000 tons of ore on the two quays. This amount was kept more or less constant: as the ore was loaded from the dumps into the ship, it was replaced by ore brought from the mines on rail-way cars. Loading at both quays is either direct from railroad cars or from heaps of ore dumped on the quay. 25X1
5. The railroad cars were flat platforms, each of which carried two open topped steel boxes. These boxes, containing the ore, were lifted bodily one at a time by the cranes, lowered into the hold or onto the dump on the quay and tipped. The boxes were then replaced on the flat cars. Each box, with its load of ore, weighed approximately five tons. 25X1
6. The slips at the eastern end of the inner basin were unoccupied. 25X1
7. A gray passenger ship, which looked like a troop transport, and a small floating dock lay stern to the quay in the southeast corner of the inner basin. The ship was of approximately 3,000 tons and was undergoing repairs. 25X1

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8. There were a number of large sheds and small buildings on the middle mole; they appeared to have been built, or rebuilt, recently. About 250 meters northeast of the grain elevator, there was a new two-story brick building. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] naval officers were seen entering and leaving the building. It gave the impression of being a naval officers' club or mess rather than a barracks.

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